Merion Mercy Academy (Merion Station, Pennsylvania, United States) was named the recipient of the 2021-2022 Moulton Student Global Citizenship Grant. NCGS co-founder Meg Moulton established this annual prize in 2016 in honor of the Coalition’s 25th anniversary. The grant helps girls engage in leadership, fortify their strategic thinking, and enhance their global mindfulness by developing empathy and respect for others. Guided by a faculty member, students will work on a project they propose that is directed at generating educational opportunities for underserved girls in developing countries.

This year, the Merion Mercy Academy student body has committed to raising awareness and funds to support Nigerian women who struggle to access clean, potable water which impacts their ability to attend school. All 400 Merion students will be engaged in this year-long, annual project through the shared belief that all people must have access to potable water and that women must have equal access to education across the globe.

The students’ goal is to raise funds to build at least one well in Nigeria to help young women gain an education. Merion Mercy Academy’s annual Mercy Girl Effect project is designed to build community and increase awareness throughout eight Mercy schools around the United States. The project was first introduced at the Mercy Girl Effect Global Leadership Conference to student attendees from ten Mercy schools across the U.S. and Northern Ireland. The aim of the project is to connect Mercy students on a global scale. Each year, the project focuses on different issues concerning obstacles regarding young women’s education connected to the Sisters of Mercy critical concerns: immigration, racism, care for Earth, nonviolence, and women.

The grant’s recipients look forward to presenting on the progress of their work at the June 2022 Global Forum on Girls’ Education® III in Boston, Massachusetts.